

REMARKS**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112**

A. Turning now to the Office Action, Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

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The Examiner stated that, “allowing a user to pull up a time-indexed point in a video *corresponding to a point in a question*” was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. (Emphasis not added). The referenced section of Claim 1 further states, “...wherein the lesson exercises include requests for user input in the form of video case questions and time-indexed video case answers and marking codes, wherein the video case questions contain time-indexed video markers embedded in the question, allowing a user to pull up a time-indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question and wherein the time-indexed video case answers allow a user to mark responses in the video assignments at particular points as time-indexed video case answers...” (Emphasis Added). The term “exercise” is defined in the Glossary Section as “including question and answer exercises.” (See the Present Application, page 31, lines 12-14). The “video marker button is provided in order to allow the teacher-user to associate the exercise [(e.g., such as a question)] ... with a particular [time-indexed] point in a video case [(i.e., video clip)],” thereby allowing a user to pull up a point in a video clip corresponding to a point in a question. (Emphasis Added) (See the Present Application, page 56, line 20-22).

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Furthermore, “an insert video marker button is also provided to allow the teacher-user or a general user to insert a blank time-code [(i.e., video marker)] to allow the association of a note with a particular portion of a video case.” (Emphasis Added) (See the Present Application, page 59, lines 5-8). The term “time-code” is used “to define a temporal point in a video... The important quality of time-codes is that they indicate particular points in the video. Time codes are used by teacher-users and other users to indicate points of interest in a video...to allow the user to coordinate points with the

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5 actual video content,” also thereby allowing a user to pull up a time-indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question. (Emphasis Added) (See the Present Application, page 33, lines 12-21).

10 Figs. 20(a), (b), and (c) have been amended to include an illustration of a video case being played in a media player window, and a non-limiting sample exercise and response with video markers included therein. (As discussed in reference to Figs. 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 23, and 31, the video case plays in a media player and its addition to Figs. 20 (a), (b), and (c) is not new matter, but rather is added to this figure for further clarification. Additionally, and as discussed above, the use of a video marker inserted
15 within an exercise and/or response is not new matter and is also added to Figs. 20 (a), (b), and (c) for further clarification.) As shown in Figs. 20 (a), (b), and (c), a user can read a question 2010 and click on a video marker to view a segment of a video case (i.e., video segment) played in the media player 802 that corresponds to the question. The digital video case may be quite long (e.g., an hour or more). Therefore, clicking on the video
20 marker, with its embedded start and end times, positions the video to start playing the video clip within the video case and pauses at the end time of the video clip. In this manner, smaller and more specific portions of the video case (i.e., video segments) can be embedded and reviewed as part of the textual description of an exercise or response. Additionally, a user can textually respond 2012 to the question 2010 (e.g., provide an
25 answer or make a note) and also insert a video marker 2018 along with the user’s textual response 2012. A user can later review the textual response 2012 and click on the video marker that has been inserted along with the textual response 2012 to return to the pertinent part of the video clip that relates to the textual response 2012.

30 With the aforementioned written descriptions in the application, the provided amended figures, and the clarification herein, the Applicant believes that Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40 comply with the written description requirement. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §112

B. Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as his invention.

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The Examiner stated that the phrase “allowing a user to pull up a time-indexed point in a video *corresponding to a point in a question*” is unclear. (Emphasis not added). Applicant believes that with the response outlined above in Section A, the pertinent parts of Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40 are no longer unclear. However, in order to further clarify the Claims, the pertinent parts of Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40

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have been amended as follows:

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“...wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user input in the form of video case questions exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses answers and video markers marking codes, wherein the video case questions exercises are contain exercises with time-indexed video markers embedded in the ~~question exercises~~, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the exercise, click on the video marker to position the

25 video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the exercise, pull up a time-indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question and wherein the ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses answers allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker embedded

30 in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending

35 point in light of the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at~~

5 ~~particular points as time-indexed video case answers~~, and wherein the video
assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case
user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be
applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of ~~lessons~~ digital
10 video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ can optionally
accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading ~~time-indexed~~
video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client systems to the server system.”

The Applicant believes that all of the amendments are properly supported by the
specification. References to the amendments are as follows:

15 The term “lesson exercise” and “video assignment” have been used
interchangeably throughout the application. In order to reduce any ambiguity, the term
“lesson exercise” has been replaced with the term “video assignment.” The amended
term is well-supported by the specification, where “the lesson exercises or video
20 assignments include requests for user input in the form of time-indexed exercises and
answers.” (See the Present Application, page 9, lines 12-13). Further support is
evidenced in the following statement, where the user is allowed “...to provide input into
the video assignments in the form of time-indexed video case user responses to exercises
and to view, create, and edit time-indexed video case entries into a notebook of personal
25 user notes.” (See the Present Application, page 6, lines 7-12).

To be consistent with the Claim language regarding a “video assignment,” figs.
18-20 have been amended to incorporate the term “video assignment.” In figs. 18-20, the
“video assignment” was referred to as a “task.” Accordingly, in the aforementioned
30 figures, the term “task” has been replaced with the term “video assignment.” The terms
have been used interchangeably throughout the specification and as such the amendment
is not considered new matter.

Also in order to reduce any ambiguity, the term “exercise” has been used to
35 replace the word “question.” “Exercise” is referenced and described throughout the

5 specification, where “the user uses a lesson-viewing program to browse the contents of
the lesson, to keep time-indexed video case personal user notes, and to provide input in
the form of time-indexed video case answers to time-indexed video case exercises for
review by the teacher and/or by peers.” (See the Present Application, page 35, lines 11-
14).

10 Exercises and responses with video markers embedded in the exercise and/or
response, with each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a
video segment and being linked to the video segment containing subject matter pertinent
to an exercise and/or response, is supported by the following: “A video marker button is
15 also provided in order to allow the teacher-user to associate the exercise with a particular
point in a video case displayed in the media player. The video marker button can cause a
pop-up window (not shown) to open for the addition of a time-code [i.e., video marker]
or it can re-configure the page to provide space for entry.” (Emphasis Added) (See the
Present Application, page 56, line 20 – page 57, line 2). “Either or both of the video
20 chapters and minor video segments include [video markers]. The [video markers]
provide links by which a user may quickly open an associated portion of the video case in
the media player.” (Emphasis added) (See the Present Application, page 47, lines 12-15).
“The term time-code is used herein to define a temporal point in a video. Time-codes
could take the form of a time-based indicator of position within a video, e.g.
25 [HH:MM:SS] where HH, MM, and SS indicate hours, minutes, and seconds elapsed,
respectively, or they could take a more general form such as frames of the video or
another time-based measure (for example, in milliseconds). The important quality of
time-codes is that they indicate particular points in the video. Time codes are used by
teacher-users and other users to indicate points of interest in a video as well as in the
30 index, table of contents, and text track of a video to allow the user to coordinate points
with the actual video content.” (Emphasis added) (See the Present Application, page 33,
lines 12-21).

The portions of the amended Claims where a user is allowed to read the
35 exercise/response, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting

5 point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the
exercise/response, are well-supported throughout the specification. An example of this
support may be found where, "...the user uses a lesson-viewing program to browse the
contents of the lesson, to keep time-indexed video case personal user notes, and to
provide input in the form of time-indexed video case answers to time-indexed video case
10 exercises for review by the teacher and/or by peers." (See the Present Application, page
35, lines 11-14).

To further clarify the scope Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the phrase
"...to be applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of lessons..." has been amended
15 to read, "...to be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases..." The amendment does not change the scope of the Claims
and is consistent with the portion of Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, where the
invention comprises "...a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital
video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text track with each text track
20 corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes of the text track
corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and
optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital
resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital
video case..." (See the Amended Claims of the Present Application, page 1, lines 10-
25 17).

The terms exchanged in the Claims are synonymous, and as such, the
amendments do not change the scope of the claims and therefore the amendments are not
narrowing within the meaning of Festo. Accordingly, these amendments do not have any
30 effects on the doctrine of equivalents available to these Claims.

Because all of the aforementioned amendments do not change the scope of the
Claims and are supported by the specification, the Applicant respectfully requests that the
Examiner withdraw this rejection of Claims 1-2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

C. Claims 1-8, 10-15, 17-31, 33-38, and 40-46 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mortimer et al. (USPN 6,091,930; hereinafter Mortimer) in view of Papadopoulos (USPN 6,099,320).

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In order to present a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must provide (1) one or more references (2) that were available to the inventor and (3) that teach (4) a suggestion to combine or modify the references, (5) the combination or modification of which would appear to be sufficient to have made the claimed invention obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

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The four factors relevant to determining obviousness are: 1) the scope and content of the prior art, 2) the differences between the prior art and the Claims at issue, 3) the level of ordinary skill in the art when the invention was made, and 4) secondary indicia, such as commercial success and copying. *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 17, 86 S.Ct. 684, 694, 15 L.Ed.2d 545 (1966). In addition, an examiner addressing obviousness must not take a "piecemeal approach, one in which [the examiner] takes the individual elements, item by item, and tries to show us that they each exist somewhere in the prior art. 'That all elements of an invention may have been old (the normal situation), some old and some new, or all new, is ... simply irrelevant.' " *Litton Systems*, 728 F.2d at 1443 (quoting *Environmental Designs Ltd. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 713 F.2d 693, 698 (Fed.Cir.1983)); see also *Avia*, 853 F.2d at 1564 ("That some components of [the challenged patent] exist in prior art references is not determinative. '[I]f the combined teachings suggest only components of the Claimed design but not its overall appearance, a rejection under section 103 is inappropriate.' ") (quoting *In re Cho*, 813 F.2d 378, 382 (Fed.Cir.1987)).

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Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40

Regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users, the interactive system comprising: a computer system including a

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5 processor for executing programs and a memory for storing programs, with the computer system having at least one display and at least one input element; the computer system further comprising: a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case (Col. 5, lines 13-19; Col. 7, lines 20-26); at least one time-indexed text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes of the text
10 track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case (Col. 9, lines 17-20); the media database further including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case (Col. 9, lines 19-34), digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case (Col. 9, lines 9-10); a video assignment database for storing at least one video case exercise and at least one video case user
15 response (Col. 25, lines 15-35); a user database for storing personal user notes (Col. 18, lines 50-59); and a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses; and a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine
20 elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database (See Fig. 3), the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through
25 the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform (See Fig. 6d), and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a notebook of personal user notes (Col. 18, lines 50-59).

30 The Examiner further stated that Mortimer also discloses lesson exercises including requests for user input in the form of questions (Col. 25, lines 45-50) and time-indexed video case answers and marking codes (Col. 22, line 67-23, line 4), wherein the lesson exercises may be configured to allow time-indexed video case user responses to be viewable by a plurality of users and to be applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of
35 lessons, and wherein lesson exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file

5 attachments to allow for uploading time-indexed video case answers from the client systems to the server system (Col. 11, line 62 – Col. 12, line 8).

The Examiner further stated that Mortimer discloses all of the claimed subject matter of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, with the exception of not explicitly disclosing that the administrative database comprises user access permission information. 10 The Examiner took the position, however, that Papadopoulos teaches a video-based instructional system wherein an administrative database comprises user access permission information (Col. 4, lines 38-40). The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to an artisan to modify the administrative system described in Mortimer, by 15 providing an administrative database comprising user access permission information in order to identify a level of access of a user as a student, author, or administrator and thereby present authoring, training or administrative materials to the identified user.

Mortimer discloses a camera to record a classroom lesson, where the recorded 20 lesson can simply be associated with the student material. (Col. 22, line 64-Col. 23, line 4). Nowhere in Mortimer are video assignments disclosed that include requests for user input in the form of video case exercises, video case answers, and video markers as applicable to the present invention.

25 The teaching of Mortimer can be contrasted with that of the present application, where a user can associate a particular portion of an exercise or response with a particular portion of a video case (e.g., video segment). (See the Replacement Sheets of the Present Application, Figs. 20(a), (b), and (c)). A teacher-user is allowed to create an exercise and insert video markers along with the exercise, where the video markers link to video 30 segments that are pertinent to the exercise. (See id). The user is allowed to read the exercise, and to click on a video marker to play the video segment corresponding to the exercise. (See id). The user is also allowed to create a response, and insert their own video marker with a corresponding video segment for other users to view. (See id). Accordingly, Mortimer does not disclose requests for user input in the form of video case 35 exercises, video case answers, and video markers as taught by the present invention.

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For reasons stated above, a combination of Papadopoulos with Mortimer does not teach all of the limitations of the present invention. Also, even if the combination did teach the present invention, the references must include a suggestion to combine or modify the references to arrive at the claimed invention, which they do not.

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Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40.

Claims 3, 11, 18, 26, 34, and 41

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Regarding Claims 3, 11, 18, 26, 34, and 41, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses a server system further including a web server system for serving lessons to the client computers (Col. 24, line 45).

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The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations of any of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

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Claims 4, 12, 19, 27, 35, and 42

Regarding Claims 4, 12, 19, 27, 35, and 42, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses digital video cases that are stored locally on the client systems (See Fig. 1, ref. 14.).

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The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which

5 depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 5, 13, 20, 28, 36, and 43

10 Regarding Claims 5, 13, 20, 28, 36, and 43, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses digital video cases that are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes (Col. 5, lines 30-31).

15 The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

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Claims 6, 14, 21, 29, 37, and 44

Regarding Claims 6, 14, 21, 29, 37, and 44, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses digital video cases that are downloaded from a server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons (Col. 24, lines 55-57).

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The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which
30 depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 15, 22, 30, and 45

35 Regarding Claims 7, 15, 22, 30, and 45, the Examiner stated that Mortimer discloses a server system further comprising a video and index builder for building a

5 time-coded text track, a time-coded index, and a time-coded table of contents for a time-coded digital video case (Col. 9, lines 17-20; Col. 9, lines 19-34; Col. 18, lines 50-59).

The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

15 Claims 8, 23, 31, 38, and 46

Regarding Claims 8, 23, 31, 38, and 46, the Examiner stated that Mortimer further discloses means for uploading digital video cases, and time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded table of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by an author in creating a lesson (Col. 18, lines 50-59).

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The Applicant refers the Examiner to the comments above regarding Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40. As neither of the inventions of Mortimer and Papadopoulos (either alone or in combination) teach all of the limitations of Claims 1, 2, 10, 17, 24, 25, 33, and 40, the Applicant believes that for at least this reason, these Claims, which depend therefrom, are also allowable. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

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5 **Concluding Remarks:**

The Applicant respectfully submits that in light of the above comments and remarks, all Claims are now in allowable condition. The Applicant thus respectfully requests timely allowance of all of the pending Claims.

10 In the event the Examiner wishes to discuss any aspect of this response, or believes that a conversation with either Applicant or Applicant's representative would be beneficial the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

15 The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 50-2691. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed. The petition fee due
20 in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 50-2691.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION
GLOSSARY SECTION, PAGE 31, LINES 11-18

Exercise: The term exercise is generally used herein in the traditional sense of an educational task, assignment, or assessment. ~~Non-limiting e~~Examples of exercises include question and answer exercises and exercises in which a user is asked to verify the truth of a statement. The term exercise is intended to be inclusive of all tasks requested of a user in order to facilitate the learning process. Generally, responses to exercises are recorded through the input device to the system, though some exercises may not include the need for a user response, or may require a user response that cannot be input via the input device (or that may be summarized via input through the input device).

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

SYSTEM OVERVIEW SECTION, PAGES 56, LINE 6-PAGE 57, LINE 3

The workbook button **822** on the navigation system links to one of four pages, an exercises page, a forums page, an add note page, and a view notebook page. As shown in **FIG. 18**, the exercises page **1800** includes an exercise list **1802**, which comprises various exercises designed by the teacher-user for a user to perform. As shown, each exercise **1804** includes an exercise name and description as well as an indication of the exercise type. Responses to the ~~exercise~~ exercises **1804** may be set so that only the teacher-user may view them or they may be set so that they may be reviewed by all users having access to the lesson. In the lesson-building program **114** (not shown in **FIG. 18**), the teacher user may add new exercises via an add new exercise button **1806** or may edit existing exercises via an exercise-editing link **1808**. Note that the exercise page **1800**, as shown is in the form of a floating or pop-up window, which would typically appear on top of the page from which it was called. Although the various pages provided by the figures herein are shown as base pages or floating or pop-up windows, the actual configuration of them may be tailored as needed for a particular embodiment.

An example of a page that may appear subsequent to saving an exercise via pages **FIG. 19(a)** and **FIG. 19(b)** is shown in **FIG. 20(a)**, **FIG. 20(b)**, and **FIG. 20(c)**. A exercise/answer exercise information page **2000**, a 2-point rating scale exercise

information page **2002**, and a 5-point rating scale exercise information page **2004** are shown in **FIG. 20(a)**, **FIG. 20(b)**, and **FIG. 20(c)**, respectively. Note that the appearance of these pages depends on a choice made in a rating scale selection radio button **2006**. If the teacher-user selects to have no rating scale, then the only entries available for the exercise are via the exercise text box **2010** and the exercise elaboration text box **2012**. Depending on whether the teacher-user selects a 2-point rating scale or a 5-point rating scale, the page is re-configured to provide a two-entry rating field **2014** or a five-entry rating field **2016**, as shown in **FIG. 20(b)** and **FIG. 20(c)**, respectively. Note that many other rating field configurations could be provided. For instance, a teacher-user could be prompted for the number of ratings, to allow for a greater variety of rating scales. Rating scales can be employed for exercises of degree (e.g., strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree, neither) or for multiple-choice exercises. An insert video marker button **2018** is also provided in order to allow the teacher-user to associate the exercise **1804** (~~not shown in FIG. 20~~) with a particular point in a video case displayed in the media player 802. For example, an insert video marker button **2018** allows the exercise author (i.e., teacher-user) to indicate and embed a video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the textual description of the exercise, thereby allowing a user (i.e., respondent) to read the text of the exercise, click on the video marker indicating the start and end of a video segment, and thereafter play and view the video segment displayed in the media player 802 to its ending point in light of the textual description of the exercise. An exercise respondent is allowed to insert a video marker that is linked to a video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the text of the response, thereby allowing a user to read the textual response, click on the video marker indicating the start and end of

the video segment, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the textual response. The insert video marker button **2018** can cause a pop-up window (not shown) to open for the addition of a video marker, basically allowing a user to identify and mark the starting and ending points (i.e., otherwise referred to as time-codes) of a video segment, or it can re-configure the page to provide space for entry. Finalizing buttons **2020**, including options for saving, deleting, and canceling the current exercise are also provided.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, the interactive system comprising:

- a. a computer system including a processor for executing programs and a memory for storing programs, with the computer system having at least one display and at least one input element;

- b. the computer system further comprising:

- i. a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes of the text track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case;
- ii. a video assignment database for storing at least one video case exercise and at least one video case user response;
- iii. an administration database for storing user access permissions and system settings;
- iv. a user database for storing personal user notes; and

v. a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses; and

c. a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and

d. a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a notebook of personal user notes; and

e. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user input in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case ~~responses~~ answers and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are contain~~ exercises with time indexed

video markers embedded in the question exercises, each video marker
indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and
being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing
subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the
5 exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the
starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending
point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the
exercise, pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point
in a question and wherein the time indexed video-case responses answers
10 allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker
embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video
segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the
response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click
15 on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and
thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response .mark responses in the video assignments at particular points
as time indexed video case answers, and wherein the video assignments
lesson exercises may be configured to allow time indexed video case user
20 responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one lesson digital video case or to a plurality of
lessons digital video cases, and wherein video assignments lesson
exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow

for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client systems to the server system.

2. (Currently Amended) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, the interactive system comprising:

- a. a computer network including a server system and at least one client system, with the server system and each respective client system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for interconnecting the server system and client systems;
- b. at least one of the server system and client systems including at least one display for providing output to a user and a user input device;
- c. the server system further comprising:

- i. a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in the text tracks corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case;

- ii. a video assignment database for storing at least one video case exercise and at least one video case user responses;
- iii. an administration database for storing user access permissions and system settings;
- 5 iv. a user database for storing personal user notes; and
- v. a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses;
- 10 and
- vi. a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the
- 15 lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to
- 20 create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and

d. the client computers further including:

- i. a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to

navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform,
and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of
responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a
notebook of personal user notes; and

- 5 e. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user
input in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video
case ~~responses answers~~ and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the
video-case ~~questions exercises~~ are contain exercises with time indexed
10 video markers embedded in the ~~question exercises~~, each video marker
indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and
being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing
subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the
exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the
starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending
15 point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the
exercise, pull up a time-indexed point in a video corresponding to a point
in a question and wherein the ~~time-indexed~~ video-case ~~responses answers~~
allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker
embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
20 and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video
segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the
response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click
on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and

thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points~~
as ~~time indexed video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments
~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case user
5 responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson~~
~~exercises~~ can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow
for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client
10 systems to the server system.

3. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional
development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 2, wherein server system
further includes a web server system for serving lessons to the client computers,
15 and wherein the lesson viewer program on the client computers is a web browser.
4. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional
development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 3, wherein the digital video
cases are stored locally on the client systems to minimize the information transfer
20 across the network during lessons.
5. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional
development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 4, where the digital video cases

are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.

5 6. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 4, wherein the digital video cases are downloaded from the server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons.

10 7. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 2, wherein the server system further comprises a video and index builder, whereby a teacher-user can build a time-coded text track, a time-coded index, and a time-coded table of contents for a time-coded digital video case.

15 8. (Original) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 7, further including means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.

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9. (Cancelled) An interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 2, wherein the lesson exercises include requests for user input in the form of questions and time-indexed video

case answers and marking codes, wherein the lesson exercises may be configured to allow time-indexed video case user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of lessons, and wherein lesson exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading time-indexed video case answers from the client systems to the server system.

10. (Currently Amended) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, wherein the interactive system includes a server system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for connecting with at least one client system, the server system further including a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text tracks with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in the text track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case; a video assignment database for storing at least one exercise and at least one user response; an administration database for storing user access permissions and system settings; a user database for storing personal user notes; and a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration

database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses; and a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons, the client computer comprising:

- a. a computer system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, input and output devices for communicating with the server system, and at least one display for providing output to a user and a user input device; and
- b. the client computer further including a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a notebook of personal user notes; and
- c. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user input in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case ~~responses answers~~ and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the

video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are contain~~ exercises with time indexed
video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker
indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and
being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing
5 subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the
exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the
starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending
point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the
exercise, ~~pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point~~
10 ~~in a question~~ and wherein the ~~time indexed~~ video-case responses answers
allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker
embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video
segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the
15 response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click
on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and
thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points~~
as ~~time indexed video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments
20 ~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time indexed~~ video case user
responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson~~

exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client systems to the server system.

- 5 11. (Original) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 10, wherein the lesson viewer program on the client computers is a web browser.
- 10 12. (Original) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 11, wherein the digital video cases are stored locally on the client systems to minimize the information transfer across the network during lessons.
- 15 13. (Original) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 12, where the digital video cases are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.
- 20 14. (Original) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 12, wherein the digital video cases are downloaded from the server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons.

15. (Original) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 10, further including means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.

16. (Cancelled) A client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 10, wherein the lesson exercises include requests for user input in the form of questions and answers and marking codes, wherein the lesson exercises may be configured to allow user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of lessons, and wherein lesson exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading answers from the client systems to the server system.

17. (Currently Amended) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, wherein the interactive system includes at least one client system, each client system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, input and output devices for connecting with the server system, a display for providing output to a user, a user input device, and a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and

to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a notebook of personal user notes, the server system comprising:

- a. a computer including a including a processor for executing programs, a
5 memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for
interconnecting the server system and client systems;

- b. the server system further comprising:

- i. a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital
video case, optionally at least one text tracks with each text track
10 corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in
the text track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video
case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-
indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital
resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary
15 relevant to each digital video case;

- ii. a video assignment database for storing at least one exercise and at
least one user response;

- iii. an administration database for storing user access permissions and
system settings;

- iv. a user database for storing personal user notes; and

- v. a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of
items from the media database, the video assignment database, and
the administration database that are organized to create a video-

based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses;
and

- c. a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and
- d. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user input in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case ~~responses~~ answers and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are contain~~ exercises with time indexed video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the exercise, pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point

~~in a question~~ and wherein the ~~time-indexed~~ video-case responses ~~answers~~
allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker
embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video
5 segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the
response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click
on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and
thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points~~
10 ~~as time-indexed video-case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments
~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case user
responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson~~
15 ~~exercises~~ can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow
for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client
systems to the server system.

18. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric
20 professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 17, wherein server
system further includes a web server system for serving lessons to the client
computers, and wherein the lesson viewer program on the client computers is a
web browser.

19. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 18, wherein the digital video cases are stored locally on the client systems to minimize the information transfer across the network during lessons.

20. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 19, where the digital video cases are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.

21. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 19, wherein the digital video cases are downloaded from the server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons.

22. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 17, wherein the server system further comprises a video and index builder, whereby a teacher-user can build a time-coded text track, a time-coded index, and a time-coded table of contents for a time-coded digital video case.

23. (Original) A server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 22, further including means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.

24. (Currently Amended) An interactive, case-based method for providing video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a computer system including a processor for executing programs and a memory for storing programs, with the computer system having at least one display and an input element;
- b. providing a media database on the computer system for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes of the video text track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and case commentary relevant to each digital video case;
- c. providing a video assignment database on the computer system for storing at least one exercise and at least one user response;

- d. providing an administration database on the computer system for storing user access permissions and system settings;
- e. providing a user database on the computer system for storing personal user notes; and providing a lesson database on the computer system for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses;
- f. providing a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and
- g. providing a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to

exercises and to view, create, and edit entries into a notebook of personal user notes; and

- h. requesting for user input in the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case ~~responses~~ answers and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are contain~~ exercises with time indexed video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter
- 5 pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the exercise, pull-up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question and
- 10 wherein the time-indexed video-case responses ~~answers~~ allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the response, thereby
- 15 allowing an individual reviewing the response to click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points as time indexed~~
- 20

~~video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of ~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client systems to the server system.

25. (Currently Amended)) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, the method comprising the steps of:

a. providing a computer network including a server system and at least one client system, with the server system and each respective client system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for interconnecting the server system and client systems, with at least one of the server system and client systems including at least one display for providing output to a user and a user input device;

b. providing, on the server system:

i. a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in

the video text track corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case;

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ii. a video assignment database for storing at least one exercise and at least one user response;

iii. an administration database for storing user access permissions and system settings;

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iv. a user database for storing personal user notes; and

v. a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses;

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and

vi. a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add

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elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further

allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to
create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and

c. providing on the client computers:

i. a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate
through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to
navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform,
and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of
responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries in a
notebook of personal user notes; and

d. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user
input in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video
case ~~responses~~ answers and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the
video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are~~ contain exercises with time indexed
video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker
indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and
being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing
subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the
exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the
starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending
point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the
exercise, pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point
~~in a question~~ and wherein the ~~time-indexed~~ video-case responses ~~answers~~
allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker

embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video
segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the
response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click
5 on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and
thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points~~
~~as time-indexed video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments
~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case user
10 responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson~~
~~exercises~~ can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow
for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client
15 systems to the server system.

26. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional
development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 25, further including the step
of providing the server system with a web server system for serving lessons to the
20 client computers, and wherein the lesson viewer program provided on the client
computers is a web browser.

27. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 26, wherein the digital video cases are stored locally on the client systems to minimize the information transfer across the network during lessons.

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28. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 27, where the digital video cases are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.

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29. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 27, wherein the digital video cases may be downloaded from the server system onto the client systems so that they can be played back locally during lessons.

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30. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 25, further including the step of providing the server system with a video and index builder, whereby a teacher-user can build a time-coded text tracks, a time-coded index, and a time-coded table of contents for a time-coded digital video case.

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31. (Original) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 30, further including the step

of providing means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.

5 32. (Cancelled) An interactive, case-based method for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in claim 25, wherein the lesson exercises include requests for user input in the form of questions and answers and marking codes, wherein the lesson exercises may be configured to allow user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be
10 applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of lessons, and wherein lesson exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading answers from the client systems to the server system.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a client system for an interactive,
15 case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, wherein the interactive system includes a server system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for connecting with at least one client system, the server system further including a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital
20 video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in the video text tracks corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital

video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case; a video assignment database for storing at least one lesson exercise for a user to perform and at least one workbook to store user responses to the lesson exercise; an administration database for storing user
5 access permissions and system settings; a user database for storing personal user notes; and a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses; and a lesson building program for allowing a
10 teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment
15 database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons, the method of providing the client system comprising the steps of:

- a. providing a computer system including a processor for executing
20 programs, a memory for storing programs, input and output devices for communicating with the server system, and at least one display for providing output to a user and a user input device; and

b. providing, on the client system, a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries in a notebook of personal user notes; and

c. requesting for user input in the video assignments ~~lesson-exercises~~ in the form of video-case ~~questions~~ exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case ~~responses~~ answers and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the video-case ~~questions~~ exercises ~~are~~ contain exercises with time indexed video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the exercise, pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question and wherein the time-indexed video-case responses ~~answers~~ allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the response, thereby

allowing an individual reviewing the response to click on the video marker
to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and
view the video segment to its ending point in light of the response ~~mark~~
~~responses in the video assignments at particular points as time indexed~~
5 ~~video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~
may be configured to allow ~~time indexed~~ video case user responses to be
viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be applicable to
only one lesson digital video case or to a plurality of ~~lessons~~ digital video
cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ can optionally
10 accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading ~~time-~~
~~indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client systems to the server
system.

34. (Original) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based
15 system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in
claim 33, wherein the lesson viewer program provided on the client computers is
a web browser.

35. (Original) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based
20 system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in
claim 34, further including the step of providing means whereby digital video
cases may be stored locally on the client systems to minimize the information
transfer across the network during lessons.

36. (Original) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 35, where the digital video cases are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.

37. (Original) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 35, further including the step of providing means by which the digital video cases may be downloaded from the server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons.

38. (Original) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 33, further including the step of providing means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.

39. (Cancelled) A method of providing a client system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 33, wherein the lesson exercises include requests for user input in the form

of questions and answers and marking codes, wherein the lesson exercises may be configured to allow user responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to be applicable to only one lesson or to a plurality of lessons, and wherein lesson exercises can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow for uploading answers from the client systems to the server system.

40. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of users by teacher-users, wherein the interactive system includes at least one client system, each client system including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, input and output devices for connecting with the server system, a display for providing output to a user, a user input device, and a lesson viewer program for allowing a user to view and navigate through the courses and lessons to select a lesson to perform, to navigate through and view the elements of the lesson to perform, and to provide input into the video assignments in the form of responses to exercises and to view, create, and edit entries in a notebook of personal user notes, the method of providing the server system comprising:
- a. providing a computer including a including a processor for executing programs, a memory for storing programs, and input and output devices for interconnecting the server system and client systems;
 - b. providing the server system with:

- i. a media database for storing at least one time-indexed digital video case, optionally at least one time-indexed text track with each text track corresponding to a digital video case, and with the time-indexes in the video text tracks corresponding to time-indexes of the digital video case; the media database further, and optionally, including a time-indexed table of contents for each digital video case, digital resources relevant to each digital video case, and commentary relevant to each digital video case;
- ii. a video assignment database for storing at least one exercise and at least one user response;
- iii. an administration database for storing user access permissions and system settings;
- iv. a user database for storing personal user notes; and
- v. a lesson database for storing lessons including a combination of items from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database that are organized to create a video-based lesson, and for storing groups of related lessons as courses; and

- c. a lesson building program for allowing a teacher-user to combine elements from the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database to create a case-based video lesson therefrom and to store the lessons within the lesson database, the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to add elements to, to delete elements

from, and to alter elements within the media database, the video assignment database, and the administration database; the lesson building program further allowing the teacher-user to organize lessons and exercises to create courses, each including a plurality of lessons; and

- 5 d. wherein the video assignments ~~lesson exercises~~ include requests for user input in the form of video-case questions exercises and ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ and video markers ~~marking codes~~, wherein the video-case questions exercises are contain exercises with time indexed video markers embedded in the ~~question~~ exercises, each video marker
- 10 indicating a starting point and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to an exercise, thereby allowing a user to read the exercise, click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending
- 15 point in light of the exercise in order to aid the user in completing the exercise, pull up a time indexed point in a video corresponding to a point in a question and wherein the ~~time indexed~~ video-case responses ~~answers~~ allow a user to respond to the exercises with at least one video marker embedded in the response, each video marker indicating a starting point
- 20 and an ending point in a video segment and being linked to the video segment, with the video segment containing subject matter pertinent to the response, thereby allowing an individual reviewing the response to click on the video marker to position the video segment at the starting point, and

thereafter play and view the video segment to its ending point in light of
the response ~~mark responses in the video assignments at particular points~~
as ~~time indexed video case answers~~, and wherein the video assignments
~~lesson exercises~~ may be configured to allow ~~time-indexed~~ video case user
5 responses to be viewable only by the user or by a plurality of users and to
be applicable to only one ~~lesson~~ digital video case or to a plurality of
~~lessons~~ digital video cases, and wherein video assignments ~~lesson~~
~~exercises~~ can optionally accommodate the use of file attachments to allow
for uploading ~~time-indexed~~ video case responses ~~answers~~ from the client
10 systems to the server system.

41. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based
system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in
claim 40, further comprising the step of providing the server system with a web
15 server system for serving lessons to the client computers, and wherein the lesson
viewer program on the client computers is a web browser.

42. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based
system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users, as set forth in
claim 41, further comprising means for storing the digital video cases locally on
20 the client systems to minimize the information transfer across the network during
lessons.

43. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 42, where the digital video cases are provided on a storage medium selected from the group consisting of hard disks, optical disks, magnetic disks, and magnetic tapes.

44. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 42, further comprising the step of providing means for downloading the digital video cases from the server system onto the client systems so that they may be played back locally during lessons.

45. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 40, further comprising the step of providing the server system with a video and index builder, whereby a teacher-user can build a time-coded text track, a time-coded index, and a time-coded table of contents for a time-coded digital video case.

46. (Original) A method for providing a server system for an interactive, case-based system for video-centric professional development of teacher-users as set forth in claim 45, further comprising the step of providing means for uploading digital video cases, time-coded text tracks, time-coded indexes, and time-coded tables of

contents from the client computers to the server computer for use by a teacher-user in creating a lesson.